

JOHN G. JOHNSON, GREATEST LAWYER, DIES SUDDENLY OF HEART DISEASE

John G. Johnson, the greatest lawyer in the country, died suddenly of heart disease at his home in Philadelphia, Pa., at 3 o'clock this morning.

Mr. Johnson was born in Chestnut Hill in 1841. He was a blacksmith by trade and a lawyer by profession. He was one of the most distinguished lawyers in the United States.

He was a member of the Home Guards he took his law books to war with him. He was opposed to speaking in public and only delivered one address outside of court in his life.

HUMBLE START AND BUSY LIFE WON SUCCESS FOR JOHN G. JOHNSON

John Graver Johnson—and very few knew his middle name—was born in Chestnut Hill in 1841. His father was a blacksmith and his mother a milliner.

It was not generally known that John G. Johnson ever served in the United States Army. During the crest of the Civil War in 1863, which was just after he had been admitted to the bar.

At the time when his mother was sinking, Mr. Johnson remained to befriend that it seemed as though his mother's illness was the only trouble he had.

It was in his wife and mother that the great lawyer centered his affections. Although his mother died but four years ago at the age of ninety-one.

It was this smile, democratic, human and sympathetic, that revealed the real Johnson as being a man who was generous and unselfish and not cold and impassive, as he was supposed to be.

MASTER OF LAW WHOSE NATURAL GIFTS WON HIM SUPREMACY

A public-school education, completed at the age of seventeen, was the sole equipment of one of the greatest lawyers in the country.

Never has a round peg been fitted into a square hole with more unerring precision. Except in the courtroom and in his office, one seldom saw him in those early days, just as in the later ones he led an almost unobtrusively secluded life.

He was a student and a serious thinker from the very beginning, and it was not long before he was accorded from judges and senior lawyers alike a respect and attention which the knowledge of law that he so soon displayed won for him.

CAREER AND TRAITS OF AMERICA'S GREATEST LAWYER

HE WAS born in Chestnut Hill in 1841. His father was a blacksmith. He died at the age of seventy-six, a millionaire.

He was regarded as the most distinguished lawyer in the United States. He never studied in a law office and rose through his own initiative.

He declined an offer to become a Justice in the Supreme Court of the United States and also refused an appointment to the Attorney Generalship. He refused to enter politics.

His art collection is valued at \$2,000,000 and is one of the finest in America. It may go to the city of Philadelphia.

JOHNSON'S \$2,000,000 ART COLLECTION MAY GO TO CITY

So great was John G. Johnson's fame as a lawyer that to many people the fact that he was one of the shrewdest art critics in the country was almost forgotten.

Looking at him, the huge bulk of a man, with his head-headed matter-of-fact countenance, one would have guessed him to be a prosperous business man.

His pictures were something of a secret. Johnson was something of a secret. That his wife when she lived would often creep down the broad staircase in the band from the great fortune he made was spent for his art collection.

JOHNSON WENT TO JOIN UNION ARMY WHEN CONFEDERATES MENACED CITY

Among the acts of his life of which John G. Johnson said little was his going out from Philadelphia to fight in the battle of Gettysburg, when it was thought that the Confederates were going to sweep over the Union forces at the little Pennsylvania town.

He was a member of the Home Guards he took his law books to war with him. He was opposed to speaking in public and only delivered one address outside of court in his life.

BENCH AND BAR OF CITY, STATE AND NATION HONOR JOHNSON

The bench and bar of the city, State and nation today united in paying tribute to the greatness of John G. Johnson.

Justice Robert von Moschizker, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania—Mr. Johnson was not only the leader of the American bar, but he was a man of profound knowledge, with a power of expression which has never been excelled.

Senator Boies Penrose—in a wide acquaintance, covering a period of more than thirty years, I have met few men who came nearer to rising up to real greatness. Mr. Johnson unquestionably was the leader of the Bar in the United States. He was perhaps the greatest citizen of Pennsylvania, and I know that all will be grieved to hear of his death.

A. Merritt Taylor—Words are insufficient to express the profound loss and sorrow occasioned by the death of Philadelphia's foremost citizen, John G. Johnson. Repeatedly in perilous situations he has safeguarded this city's interests and directly directed its destinies in the interest of the people.

State District Attorney—The death of John G. Johnson removes the peerless leader of the bar of Pennsylvania. I was associated with him years ago in cases emanating from my home district.

John Frederick Lewis—Mr. Johnson was regarded as one of the greatest art collectors we have ever had in America. By his collections and especially by his marvelous discrimination in art, he has probably done as much for art as any American, artist or layman.

Francis Fisher Kane, United States District Attorney—Mr. Johnson had a wonderful mind and was without question the most capable lawyer in the United States. He was a veritable Napoleon in his capacity for business, which seemed well-nigh endless.

Former Judge Abraham M. Beitler—Mr. Johnson was regarded as one of the foremost, if not the foremost, lawyer of his day. He has added luster to the name of Philadelphia lawyers.

Former Judge Mayer Sulzberger—I am too shocked to say what I should like to say. When I first knew Mr. Johnson was a complete and perfect fire for pre-eminence among scholars.

William A. Glasgow, Jr., prominent lawyer—All I can say is that the greatest man I have ever known has passed away.

Former Judge James Gay Gordon—In the death of Mr. Johnson, one of the mightiest in the land has fallen. He was a great lawyer and a great man.

Walter B. Ainey, chairman of the State Public Service Commission—The State of Pennsylvania has lost a most distinguished citizen, the legal fraternity a man whose words, work and worth will be appreciated by the courts and bars for years to come.

MEN OF NATIONAL DISTINCTION LAMENT GREAT LAWYER'S DEATH

Deep regret expressed in telegrams to the Evening Ledger, lamenting the death of John G. Johnson, were received from United States Senators, the Attorney General and the Justices of the Supreme Court.

Some of the telegrams follow: T. GREGORY, Attorney General of the United States—John G. Johnson was a man of tremendous power, a lawyer of great learning and originally, an advocate without a superior at the American bar.

Charles E. Hughes, New York—I learn with the deepest regret of the death of John G. Johnson. He was a lawyer of the highest attainments, and his sterling character and distinguished abilities were universally recognized.

Shore Paving Suit In Another Tangle Contractors Threaten to Sue County Unless Permitted to Push Work

ATLANTIC CITY, April 14.—Further complications have been added to the patented paving controversy over the Philadelphia-Atlantic City motor roadway, now before the Court of Errors on appeal from a decision by Justice Black, of the Supreme Court, nullifying the \$693,000 award.

Waterworks Plot Foiled CINCINNATI, O., April 14.—What is believed by military and police officers to have been an attempt to blow up or cripple a water works plant was frustrated when a country guarding the works participated in a shooting encounter with three men whom he surprised while they were digging near the key chamber to the valve system of the filtration plant.

WAR-BOUND AMERICANS ASSISTED BY JOHNSON

At the beginning of the European war Mr. Johnson chartered the Moravia Line steamship Antilles to bring American volunteers back to their country.

At the time of the outbreak Mr. Johnson had been on the Continent for some time. Despite this fact, he did not elect to return in the ship he had chartered.

PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY ELECTS NEW MEMBERS

Four Philadelphians Among Seventeen Savants Added to Distinguished Body

Four Philadelphians are among the seventeen new members admitted today to the American Philosophical Society, which is holding its general meeting at 104 South Fifth street.

Harold Bender, Ph. D., Philadelphia, professor of electrical engineering of the University of Pennsylvania since 1914.

Walter B. Ainey, Ph. D., Philadelphia, professor of Latin at the University of Pennsylvania since 1906.

Edwin Bidwell Wilson, Ph. D., Cambridge, Mass., professor of mathematics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology since 1911.

OCEAN CITY TO HAVE BIGGER MUSIC PAVILION

Order Given to Contractor and Work to Be Started Soon—Lively Season Promised

OCEAN CITY, N. J., April 14.—The contractor has ordered the material required in the work of enlarging the city's music pavilion on the boardwalk.

BARS DANCING AT HOTEL

License Court at Pittsburgh Criticizes Management of Schenley

PITTSBURGH, April 14.—Declaring the Hotel Schenley was "a rendezvous for dissipation and if the dances were kept up at that place the bar would have to be closed."

MANAYUNK FLAG-RAISING

Residents Involuntarily Join in Ceremony at Nixon Paper Company Plant

Residents of Manayunk involuntarily joined a flag-raising at the plant of the Nixon Paper Company, Nixon and Felton streets, at daybreak this morning.